

**SECURITIES SERVICING Corporate Trust Services** 

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#### A Long-Term Relationship

# California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission Fundamentals of Debt Financing Presented by:

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#### What We'll Cover

- Role of Trustee or Agent
- Default
- Professionalism of Your Trust Administrator
- Administrative Duties of a Trustee or Fiscal Agent
- Pre-Closing Discussions With Your Trustee
- Your Trustee, Fiscal and Paying Agent

## What We Do The Role of The Trustee or Agent

- Simple to complex roles levels of involvement depend on type of financing
- Paying Agent payment of principal and interest to your bondholders
- Fiscal Agent in addition to paying agent duties, perform certain administrative duties on Issuer's behalf
  - Primary recordkeeping/tracking of bond proceeds. Custodian of investments representing bond proceeds. Maintenance of reserve, project, and debt service funds.
  - Monitor and collect compliance documentation or covenants required under the financing documents
- Trustee in addition to Paying Agent & Fiscal Agent duties, perform fiduciary responsibilities in pursuing remedies of bondholders in the event of default by the issuer

#### Default — Trustee Becomes "Prudent Person"

- Protecting the interest of your bondholders
  - Pursue remedial provisions under the indenture
  - Notices of default and bondholder communications
  - Creditors' committee
  - Acceleration of bonds
  - Exercise of ownership on collateral held

## How do you choose your trust professional?

- Professional trust administrators should be an extension of your office. Make certain
  you select your trustee based upon experience, professionalism and resources, not just
  price.
- What skills do they/should they possess?
  - Legal knowledge and document review skills
  - Understanding of investments and settlement process
  - Accounting skills
  - Systems knowledge
  - Communication skills
  - Organizational skills
- In general, they should possess a wealth of information related to your bond issue. Get them to share this knowledge with you. It can make your job easier.

# Administrative Duties of a Trustee or Fiscal Agent Our Agency Functions . . . an Extension of You

- What does the trustee do for you...?
  - Construction fund accounting; manage payment of requisitions as you build your project.
  - Administer funds established under the indenture
  - Debt service billing and collection of revenues or payments for eventual payment to bondholders
  - Custodian/safekeeping agent of bond proceeds
  - Compliance manager

# The Construction or Project Fund Phase

- Payment of requisitions as you build your project
- Requisition disbursements requirements
- Authorized disbursements and signatures required
- Vendor payments and timing requirements
- Payments to vendors vs. reimbursement to issuer
- Completion certificates

#### Establishment of Trust Accounts

- Administration of Trust Funds established under the indenture
- How many do you really need/want?
- Accounting processes...project fund to track payments made to vendors
- Proper tracking and transfer of interest earnings
- Proper tracking of the re-payment process ...waterfall through funds
- Internet or online access to view your activity and assets held in trust
- How often do you need your statements, what about other departments and auditors?

#### Debt Service Process

- Debt service billing and collection of tax revenue, lease payments, etc. from issuer, for eventual payment to bondholders
- Fixed vs. variable rate processes
- Debt service schedules
- Sinking fund requirements
- Payment due dates and timing requirements
- Credits via interest earnings or capitalized interest
- DTC Book-entry only you and your bondholders

#### Investment of Trust Funds

- The investment of bond proceeds
- Permitted investments
- Settlement procedures and timing requirements
- Tracking market value of investments, such as GIC's, or LAIF vs. standard investments
- A trustee is not an investment advisor

## Compliance Monitoring and Disclosure

- Tracking covenant requirements under the Indenture
- Tickler system to track what continuing documentation, reports and certificates you need to provide the trustee (ultimately they are built in protections for your bondholders)
  - Insurance certificates vs. Statements
  - Budgets and preliminary budgets
  - Annual reports for disclosure
  - Disclosure Dissemination Agent
  - Rebate requirements
  - Change in authorized signatories

## Pre-closing . . . Before It's Too Late

- Pre-closing . . . The issuer and trustee will have to work within these documents for the next 30 years, make certain they read the way you want them to read. Things to consider . . .
  - the establishment of sub accounts
  - waterfall of revenue or lease payments
  - document and invoice requirements surrounding disbursements for construction funds
  - permitted investment language
  - compliance requirements and documentation required
  - covenant restrictions

# Some closing thoughts and questions about your relationship with your trustee . . .

- Many parties move on after the closing. The Issuer and the Trustee are actively involved for the life of the bonds.
- The trustee performs administrative functions on my behalf, which will directly reflect on me, the City/Agency and our bond holders. How am I selecting my trustee (my 30 year partner)?
- I now have a five-inch thick closing transcript binder, with no pictures. How do I organize what is important for the next 30 years?
- What tools or resources does my trustee have which might blend in with what I need?
- This long-term relationship should begin prior to the closing and early on in the document review process

# Identify the Right Trustee or Agent... Your Financing Partner for the Life of the Bonds

What to look for in the Institution and the Individual professionals

- Trustee Services specialized, not all banks do it anymore
- Commitment Level of the bank or trust company
  - Systems and resources utilized by the front and back office
  - Ability to attract talented professionals
- You pay them an annual fee. What to ask for. What to expect.
  - Perform your job and take care of debt holders
  - Make my life easier and assist me through this process
  - Share of knowledge related to covenant requirements
  - Ensure correct timing of statements, electronic or hard copy
  - Share your specific timing requirements and needs

# Don't Hesitate to Contact me with your questions

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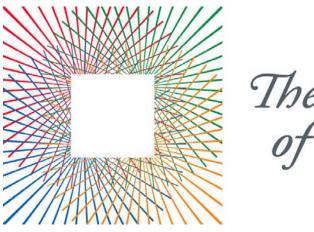
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